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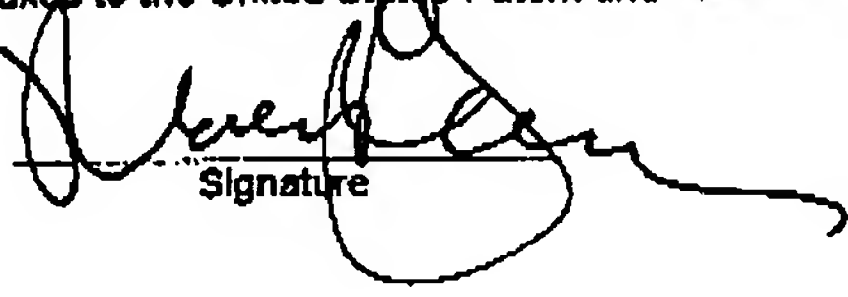
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**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Dille

Serial No.: 10/707078

Confirmation No.: 1077

Filed: 11/19/2003

For: TUBE ASSEMBLY AND METHOD

Group Art Unit: 2855

Examiner: Mack

Atty. Dkt. No.: 021958.040US

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 4, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted as a response to the office action dated October 4, 2004 (the "office action"). Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to deduct the extension fee and any other fees required for any reason relating to this paper under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 to 1.21 from Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP Deposit Account No. 12-1322, Order No. 021958.040US.